

The **Parks and Recreation Board** met Monday, May 20, 2013, 4:30pm, at the Lilly Nature Center. Present at said meeting were Richard Shockley Karen Springer, John MacDonald, Patrick Flannelly, Aimee Jacobsen and Attorney, Andy Gutwein. Joe Payne, Pennie Ainsworth, Lee Booth, Chris Foley, Brenda Lorenz, Dan Dunten and Cheryl Kolb represented the department. Also present was Council President Ann Hunt. Absent from the meeting were Council members Gerald Thomas and Gerry Keen.

Richard convened the Board at 4:32pm.

The first item of the agenda was the approval of the minutes from the April 15, 2013 meeting. Karen motioned to approve the minutes. John seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Superintendent – Joe reported on the following:

- Noted the Council Report was included in the mailing
- Reported we had about \$3,500.00 worth of damage to the new trail segment between the State Road 26 bridge and the railroad bridge from the flood last month. It is the only major damage we had and the Redevelopment Commission has approved us using some of this year's appropriation for Trail Crack Sealing and Seal Coating to hire Milestone to do the repair work.
- Joe informed the Board of Eric Reifel's resignation to pursue his interest in nursing. He is traveling some after passing his boards and will return to pursue employment in his field of study.
- Joe also reported to the Board that Brenda Lorenz has decided to retire and that this will be her last Park Board meeting.

Assistant Superintendent – Pennie reported on the following:

- We had to add two additional semi loads of surfacing material to Happy Hollow Park, for a total of 400 cubic yards. Last week, 100 cubic yards was added to Tapawingo Park.
- We have 32 coed teams and 12 mens teams playing in our adult softball leagues. Games are played at the Arni Cohen fields and Blessed Sacrament Church field. Games are played Monday-Thursday. We've only had one coed game and two mens games rained out so far.
- ADA Compliance work at the pool has been completed, thanks to funds from the Community Development Block Grant Funds. I will be meeting with David Meihls at the pool tomorrow to make sure we are fully compliant with ADA. I will also update our ADA Evaluation for the pool.
- The Global Fest committee is meeting monthly.

Parks – Lee reported on the following:

- Trail and Playground Inspections are available
- Prepared the Margerum Fountain for the summer
- Still finishing up a few loose ends at the new office
- Busy preparing the pool for opening day this Friday

Recreation Report – Chris reported on the following:

- Most of the summer staff has been hired for the pool, playground and tennis programs. We have been interviewing for the regular year-round part-time position and the summer office help.
- Some pool staff have been making the final preparations for pool opening.
- Splash Bash is our official opening of the summer season and the end of the school year. Splash Bash will be held on Friday, May 24 from 1:00-4:00pm with a special admission price of \$1.00. Public swim will be from 1:00-4:50pm and 6:00-7:50pm. The Adult Lap swim program will begin Tuesday, May 28 and will continue through the end of the season, which is Sunday, August 14.
- Registration for the summer programs has begun. Several swim lessons for the little ones have filled as well as the Playground programs and tennis lessons.

Morton Center – Brenda reported on the following:

- The registration total for the winter/spring session at Morton was 1,571. Last year's total was 1,588 – a decrease of 1% from last year.
- The Mor' Danc'n Dance Recital was well attended on Saturday, April 27. Approximately 800 people attended. The number does include approximately 200 dancers.
- Active Living and Senior Fun Day was held on Wednesday, May 8. Nearly 250 seniors attended the movie and visited the wellness booths in the lobby. Approximately 150 seniors attended the free lunch and wellness presentation at the Home Economics Building at the Tippecanoe County Fairgrounds.
- I attended the West Lafayette Farmers' Market on Wednesday, May 1, to promote our summer programs. A number of people dropped by the booth to pick up a summer brochure.

Stewardship Manager – Dan reported on the following:

- **Earth Day (April 22)** – Fifteen managers from the area Starbuck's planted 20 shrubs for us along a new stretch of the Wabash Heritage Trail, near State St. and Tapawingo Dr. This is the second year they have helped us with the plantings. They now want to help with the DeTrash the Wabash cleanup on June 1, as well as provide free lemonade to all participants.
- **Arbor Day (April 26)** – Twenty, 4-5 year olds from the Tippecanoe County Child Care assisted the Mayor and several other adults in planting 15 trees along this same section of the Wabash Heritage Trail. Since the planting, I have heard back twice from the Child Care Director, sharing how much the youth talked about and enjoyed this activity.
- **Mind BOGgling Event (May 18)** – Over 300 people attended this event last Saturday, that included environmental hikes, family activities, musical entertainment, and educational, nature-related presentations. It was a long day of activities, but we heard several positive comments.
- **Educational Posters** – I again worked with a Purdue Communications class and their final project involved researching and developing 10 posters relating to an environmental topic I selected. They turned out great and 3 of them are displayed on one of the tables.

Old Business

Neighborhood Park

Ann Hunt reported there is still a strong desire for a pocket park at Summit & Garden streets. Discussion followed.

New Business

Free Yoga Class at Lommel Park

Alexandra Cosgrove from *M Power Yoga*, a new studio in West Lafayette (next to Payless on Sagamore Parkway) is requesting use of Lommel Park on Saturday, July 13, at 4:00pm, with a rain date of Sunday, July 14, at 10:00am, to host a free yoga class. The studio is interested in hosting a few free yoga classes this summer in different parks in West Lafayette. They are expecting 10-20 people to attend this free event and will provide a Certificate of Insurance. Pat motioned to approve the request as presented. Karen seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Morton – Request to Declare Surplus

Brenda requested Board approval to declare the following items as surplus:

1. Bunn Coffeemaker, purchased in 1988 (still works – would like to donate)
2. Fax machine, purchased in 1996 (still works – would like to donate)
3. Electric Typewriter (does not work -would like to scrap)

Karen motioned to approve the items presented as surplus. John seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Pennie requested Board approval to declare the following items as surplus:

1. 16 old pool chaise lounge chairs from the pool, purchased in 1997 (will donate or scrap)

Pat motioned to approve the items presented as surplus. John seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Contract with Environmental Laboratories, Inc.

Pennie requested to enter into agreement with Environmental Laboratories, Inc. for 3 years. They provide the testing of our weekly water samples at the pool (one from each pool), and then submit the results electronically to the Tippecanoe County Health Department. Aimee motioned to approve the request to enter into agreement with Environmental Laboratories, Inc. for water testing at the Municipal Pool for the next 3 years. Karen seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Request for Promotion

Joe requested Park Board approval for the promotion of Nick Rawles, from Parks & Recreation Maintenance Tech II position, to the vacant Trails Manager position, effective May 25 (the beginning of the next bi-weekly pay period) with a bi-weekly salary of \$1,392.44. Pat motioned to approve the promotion of Nick Rawles to the Trails Manager position. Aimee seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Jan Myers attended the meeting and addressed the following items:

- Complimented Mary Cutler, Dan Dunten and John MacDonald on their efforts pertaining to the Mind BOGgling Event
- Jan also commented on the new outdoor seating, noting they appear to be the correct height from the ground, but there needs to be a trail leading to the area, not just for people similar to her, but also for those with strollers.
- Discussed the needs for a system, such as Chattervox, for the hearing impaired, a worn device in which a "speaker" wears the device to project their voice to the hearing impaired in the audience.
- She noted her concerns regarding the material used for the structure of the benches for the outdoor seating area, noting she was surprised that we didn't use less expensive materials for the project or plastic for the seating. Dan explained that some of the material is treated lumber and that the posts and the supports are recycled from the fence that was torn out near the bridge.
- Noted there are still issues with the door at the Lilly Nature Center. The door has been tweaked, but she does not believe it to be enough. Pennie reported we do not need a powered door, so long as the pressure meets the ADA Standards. Another item that still needs to be corrected is the height of the brochure board at the Lilly Nature Center. The trail map is not usable, as well as some of the signage for the trails. Jan also noted she has put it into writing a couple of times regarding the observation decks being inaccessible, not only noting a correction to the situation still needs to happen.

West Lafayette School Board – Karen reported the following:

- At the end of April, US News & World Report released its Nation's Best High School report. WLCSC was ranked 2nd in State of Indiana, Signature High School, a charter school, was ranked 1st.
- Indiana Department of Education, earlier this month, released the list of Four Star Schools – West Lafayette Jr/Sr High School, Happy Hollow Elementary and Cumberland Elementary are all 2013 Four Star Schools. Factors in this designation include being in the top 25th percentile in performance on state-required ISTEP & ECA tests, plus adequate yearly progress measures.
- The 2012-2013 school year concludes this Thursday, May 23 and graduation will be Friday night at 7:00pm.
- The community-wide Facility Strategic Plan committee will meet June 12-13 with former Lafayette Superintendent, Ed Eiler serving as facilitator.

Wabash River

- Richard reported they have not met since our last meeting, noting the next meeting is this Thursday.

Other

Softball & Baseball Field Maintenance Safety Audits

Pennie presented the Softball & Baseball Field Maintenance Safety Audits for the Board's viewing, noting she has the maintenance staff perform an inspection on our adult softball fields, which includes the three fields, the Arni Cohen fields (North & South), and the Blessed Sacrament field.

Special Request Form

Joe wanted to follow up with the discussion from last month's meeting regarding the Consideration of Special Request form that Andy drafted. We would like to proceed with approval of this form. There is only one small change to the last line, which reads, "Groups making a Special Request are required to have a representative attend the Board meeting at which their request will be considered." Discussion followed. Aimee motioned to approve the form as presented. Pat seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Pay Claims

Karen motioned for claims to be paid. John seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Adjourn

Pat motioned to adjourn the meeting. John seconded the motion, and the meeting adjourned at 5:19 pm.

Presiding Officer

Secretary